



GRANTMAKERS CONCERNED WITH  
IMMIGRANTS AND REFUGEES  
Celebrating 20 Years: 1990-2010

# California Immigrant Integration Initiative (CIII)

CIII seeks to advance the civic and economic integration of immigrants at the local and state level by strengthening the immigrant integration infrastructure in local communities across California. The initiative, organized in 2007, currently involves 40 statewide and local funders. Through a partnership with the Institute for Local Government, CIII also engages municipal and county governments in its efforts. In a time of significantly reduced public and philanthropic resources, CIII provides funders a forum to identify partnership and funding opportunities and work together to leverage the influence and impact of their leadership and grant dollars.

## CURRENT INITIATIVES

Priority areas of work include:

- Increasing citizenship and civic participation through regional funder collaboration and statewide coordination
- Informing funders about local, state, and federal policy developments on immigrant integration and immigration reform
- Building the strategic communications capacity of immigrant organizations

### ***What is immigrant integration?***

Immigrant integration is a dynamic, two-way process in which newcomers and the receiving society work together to build secure, vibrant, and cohesive communities.

## ABOUT GCIR

GCIR is a resource and a catalyst that enables foundations to better understand and address the challenges and opportunities that come with immigration. Our goal is to promote effective grantmaking that improves the lives of immigrants and refugees and strengthens local communities. For more information on GCIR and CIII, please contact Rebecca Dames at 415.489.0085 or [rebecca@gcir.org](mailto:rebecca@gcir.org).

## ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Leveraged nearly \$10 million from 18 funders to support outreach in hard-to-count communities in 15 counties.
- Leveraged more than \$300,000 for statewide communications capacity building.

## PUBLISHED REPORTS

- *California Counts: A Funders' Guide to the 2010 Census* (2009)
- *Integration Potential of California's Immigrants and Their Children: New Estimates of Potential New Voters at the State, County, and Legislative District Levels* (2008)
- *The Need to Expand Immigrant Legal Services in Northern California* (2008)
- *The Vital Role of Community Colleges in the Education and Integration of Immigrants* (2008)

## ACTIVITIES

- Generate and disseminate data and information about California immigrants and their integration needs.
- Engage diverse stakeholder groups, from foundations to advocates to local governments, in responding to these needs at the local and state levels.
- Encourage the identification and development of public policy, as well as community-based and private-sector solutions to promote immigrant integration.
- Promote funder coordination, collaboration, innovation, and leadership to advance immigrant integration in California.